CBS NEWS -D.N.C 1976 NIGHT 4 (7-15-1976) - CARTER ACCEPTANCE SPEECH

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=UATORP2tSrE (https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=UATORP2tSrE)

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From Tuesday, July 15th, 1976 CBS NEWS Coverage of NIGHT 4 of 4 of the 1976 Democratic National Convention in New York City.

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[Applause] [Music] jimmy carter from the trailer into the convention hall ed rabel's there governor carter just moving out of his uh trailer here and of course into the main area of the convention hall that film you just saw by the way is uh was produced by jerry ratcher an atlanta advertising agency owner and now he's gone into the uh into the area is it reaper double time [Applause] we can see him coming into the hall here now [Applause] [Music] we'll be out here in just a minute or two and more agents here than there are delegates roger mud there at the entrance into the hall he is about ready to come in he's now under the marquee and here he comes just into the convention hall surrounded by a jamming pushing crowd of uh cameras and still photographers reporters making his way up the aisle that runs from north to south lined by blue ushers [Applause] [Music] they brought mondale in by the back door they're bringing carter in by the front now they're going to make a turn to come down to the illinois delegation of mayor richard daley who for so many years has delivered so many votes for the democratic party [Music] candidate charter will make the turn by the new jersey and utah signs you'll make a right turn to come down to say hello to mayor daley and of course the democratic gubernatorial candidate

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the democratic gubernatorial candidate in illinois it will require a short detour for candidate carter but for obvious reasons he wants to come and shake hands with [Applause] mayor daley senator adley stevenson iii who was seated on this role with mayor daley just a few moments ago quietly left during the film and is no longer here he didn't say why he left [Applause] so [Applause] [Music] so [Applause] louisiana about waving their banners [Applause] from meters fanatical

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[Music] interesting the banners of the states that had presidential candidates are not being weighed indiana maine [Music] arizona louisiana which was uh you know edwards for brown [Applause] you can't see california from here [Applause] idaho [Applause] [Music] [Applause] so [Applause] this of course is jimmy carter's first appearance at the convention madison square garden he observed the tradition broken only twice in modern times of not appearing at the hall until he had been nominated and thought he was ready for his acceptance speech candidates traditionally had not come to the hall owner senator culver back in 1956 in recent times i've broken that tradition he came to the hall in the international amphitheater in chicago before the nominations took place

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before the nominations took place he said it was rushed toward his father to a seat in the stands but of course it set off a demonstration for him [Applause] oh my name is jimmy carter and i'm running for president [Applause] [Music] it's been a long time since i said those words the first time [Applause] and now i've come

here after seeing our great country to accept your nomination i accept it in the words of john f kennedy with a full and grateful heart and with only one obligation to devote every effort of body mind and spirit to lead our party back to victory in our nation back to greatness [Applause] it's a pleasure to be here with all you democrats

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[Music] and to see that our bicentennial celebration and our bicentennial convention has been one of decorum and order without any fights or free-for-alls among democrats that can only happen once every 200 years [Music] with this kind of a united democratic party we are ready and eager to take on the republicans whichever republican party they decide to send against us in november 1976 will not be a year of politics as usual it can be a year of inspiration and hope and it will be a year of concern of quiet and sober reassessment of our nation's character and purpose a year when voters have already confounded the experts and i guarantee you that it will be the year when we give the government of this country back to the people of this country [Applause] [Music] there's a new mood in america we've been shaken by a tragic war abroad and by scandals and broken promises at home our people are searching for new voices and new ideas and new leaders

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and new ideas and new leaders although government has its limits and cannot solve all our problems we americans reject the view that we must be reconciled to failures and mediocrity or to an inferior quality of life for i believe that we can come through this time of trouble stronger than ever like troops who've been in combat we've been tempted into fire we've been disciplined and we've been educated guided by lasting and simple moral values we've emerged idealists without illusions realists who still know the old dreams of justice and liberty of country and our community this year we've had 30 state primaries more than ever before making it possible to take our campaign directly to the people of america to homes and shopping centers to factory ship lines and colleges to beauty parlors and barber shops to farmers markets and union halls this has been a long and a personal campaign a kind of humbling experience reminding us that ultimate political influence rests not with a power brokers but with a [Applause] [Music] people [Music] this has been a time for learning and for the exchange of ideas a time of tough debate on the important

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a time of tough debate on the important issues facing our country this kind of debate is part of our tradition and as democrats we are heirs to a great tradition i have never met a democratic president but i've always been a democrat years ago as a farm boy sitting outdoors with my family on the ground in the middle of the night gathered close around a battery radio connected to the automobile battery and listening to the democratic conventions in far off cities i was a long way from the selection process then i feel much closer to it tonight ours is a part of the man who was nominated by those distant conventions and who inspired and restored this nation in its darkest hours franklin d roosevelt ours is a party of a fighting democrat who showed us that a common man could be an uncommon leader harry s truman [Applause] ours is a party of a brave young president who called the young at heart regardless of age to seek a new frontier of national

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to seek a new frontier of national greatness john f kennedy [Applause] [Music] and ours is also the party of a great-hearted texan who took office in a tragic hour and he went on to do more than any other president in this century to advance the cause of human rights lyndon johnson [Applause] [Music] now our party was built out of the sweat shops of the old lower east side the dark mills of new hampshire the blazing horse of illinois the coal mines of pennsylvania the hard scrabble forms of the southern coastal plains and the unlimited frontiers of america ours is a party that welcomed generations of immigrants the jews the irish the italians the poles and all the others enlisted him in his ranks and fought the political battles that helped bring them into the american mainstream and they have shaped the character of our party

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our party that is our heritage our party has not been perfect we've made mistakes and we've paid for them but ours is a tradition of leadership and compassion and progress our leaders have fought for every piece of progressive legislation from rfd and rea to social security and civil rights in times of need the democrats were there [Music] but in recent years our nation has seen a failure of leadership we've been hurt and we've been disillusioned we've seen a wall go up that separates us from our own government we've lost some precious things that historically have bound our people and our government together we feel that moral decay has weakened our country that it's crippled by a lack of goals and values and that our public officials have lost faith in us we've been a nation adrift too long we've been without leadership too long we've had divided and deadlocked government too long we've been governed by veto too long we've suffered enough at the hands of a tired and worn out administration without new ideas without youth or vitality without vision and without the confidence

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and without the confidence of the american people there's a fear that our best years are behind us but i say to you that our nation's best is still ahead [Applause] our country's lived through a time of torment it's now a time for healing we want to have faith again we want to be proud again we just want the truth again it's time for the people to run the government and not the other way around [Music] it's time to honor and strengthen our families and our neighborhoods and our diverse cultures and customs we need a democratic president and a congress to work in harmony for change with mutual respect for change in the open for a change and next year we're going to have that new leadership you can depend on it [Applause] it's time for america to move and to speak not with boasting and belligerence but with a quiet strength to depend on world affairs not merely on the size of an arsenal but on the new nobility of ideas and to govern it home not by confusion

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and to govern it home not by confusion and crisis but with grace and imagination and common sense too many have had to suffer at the hands of a political and economic elite who have shaped decisions and never had to account for mistakes not to suffer from injustice when unemployment when unemployment prevails they never stand in line looking for a job [Applause] [Music] when deprivation results from a confused and bewildering welfare system they never do without food or clothing or a place of sleep [Music] when the public schools are inferior or torn by strife their children go to exclusive private schools [Applause] [Music] and when the bureaucracy is bloated and confused the powerful always manage to discover and occupy niches of special influence and privilege an unfair tax structure serves their needs [Music] and tight secrecy always seems to prevent reform all of us

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must be careful not to cheat each other too often unholy self-perpetuating alliances have been formed between money and politics and the average citizen has been held at arm's length each time our nation has made a serious mistake the american people have been excluded from the process the tragedy of vietnam and cambodia the disgrace of watergate and the embarrassment of the cia revelations could have been avoided if our government had simply reflected the sound judgment and the good common sense and the high moral character of the american people [Applause] [Music] [Applause] it's time for us to take a new look at our own government to strip away the secrecy to expose the unwarranted pressure of lobbyists to eliminate waste to release our civil servants from bureaucratic chaos to provide tough management and always to remember that in any town or city the mayor the governor and the president represent exactly the same constituents

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[Music] as a governor i had to deal each day with a complicated and confused and overlapping and wasteful federal government bureaucracy as president i want you to help me evolve an efficient economical purposeful and manageable government for our nation [Applause] [Music] [Applause] now i recognize the difficulty but if i'm elected it's going to be done and you can depend on it [Music] we must strengthen the government's closest to the people business labor agriculture education science education government should not struggle in isolation from one another but should be able to strive toward mutual goals and shared opportunities we should make major investments in people and not in buildings and weapons [Applause] the poor the aged the weak the afflicted must be treated

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the weak the afflicted must be treated with respect and compassion and with love now i've spoken a lot of times this year about love but love must be aggressively translated into simple justice [Music] the test of any government is not how popular it is with a powerful but how honestly and fairly it deals with those who must depend on it it's time for a complete overhaul of our income tax system i still tell you it's a disgrace to the human race all my life i've heard promises about tax reform but it never quite happens with your help we are finally going to make it happen and you can depend on it [Music] [Applause] [Music] here's something that can really help our country it's time for universal voter

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registration it's time for a nationwide comprehensive health program for all our people [Applause] it's time to guarantee an end to discrimination because of race of sex by full involvement in the decision-making processes of government by those who know what it is to suffer from discrimination and they'll be in the government if i'm [Applause] elected [Applause] [Music] [Applause] [Music] it's time it's time for the law to be enforced we cannot educate children we cannot create harmony among our people we cannot preserve basic human freedom unless we have an orderly society now crime and a lack of justice are especially

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and a lack of justice are especially cruel to those who are least able to protect themselves swift to rest and trial fair and uniform punishment should be expected by anyone who would break our laws it's time [Music] it's time for our government leaders to respect the law no less than the homeless citizen [Music] so that we can end once and for all a double standard of justice i see no reason i see no reason why big shot crooks should go free and the full ones go to [Applause] jail [Applause] do [Applause] [Music] a simple a simple and a proper function of government is just to make it easy for us to do good and difficult for us to do wrong now as an engineer a planner a businessman i see clearly the value to our nation of a strong system of free enterprise based on increased productivity and

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based on increased productivity and adequate wages we democrats believe that competition is better than regulation [Applause] [Music] and we intend to combine strong safeguards for consumers with minimal intrusion of government in our free economic system i believe [Applause] i believe that anyone who's able to work ought to work [Music] [Applause] you know i have a chance to work we'll never have an end to the inflationary spiral we'll never have a balanced budget which i am determined to see as long as we have eight or nine million americans out of work who cannot find a job now any system of economics is bankrupt if it sees either value of virtue in unemployment we simply we simply cannot check inflation by keeping people out of work the foremost the foremost responsibility of any president above all else is to guarantee the security of our nation a guarantee of freedom from the threat of successful attack or blackmail and the ability with our allies to maintain

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maintain peace but peace is not the mere absence of war peace is action to stamp out international terrorism peace [Music] peace is the unceasing effort to preserve human rights and peace is a combined demonstration of strength and good will we'll pray for peace and we'll work for peace until we have removed from all nations for all time the threat of nuclear [Applause] [Music] [Applause] destruction [Music] america's birth open a new chapter in mankind's history i was the first nation to dedicate itself clearly to basic moral and philosophical principles that all people are created equal and endowed with inalienable rights to life liberty and the pursuit of happiness and the power of government is derived from the consent of the government this this national commitment was a singular act of wisdom and courage and it brought the best and the bravest from other nations to our shores it was a revolutionary development that captured the imagination of mankind it created a basis for a unique role

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it created a basis for a unique role for america that of a pioneer in shaping more decent and just relations among people and among societies today 200 years later we must address ourselves to that role both in what we do at home and how we act abroad among people everywhere who have become politically more alert socially more congested and increasingly impatient with global inequities and who are now organized as you know into some 150 different nations this calls for nothing less than a sustained architectural effort to shape an international framework of peace within which our own ideals gradually can become a global reality our nation should always derive its character directly from the people and let this be the strength and the image to be presented to the world the character of the american people [Applause] [Music] [Applause] [Music] to our friends and allies i say that what unites us through our common dedication to democracy is much more important than that which occasionally divides us on economics or politics to the nations that seek to lift themselves from poverty i say that america shares your aspirations and extends its hand to you

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and extends its hand to you to those nation-states that wish to compete with us i say that we neither fear competition nor see it as an obstacle to wider cooperation and to all people i say that after 200 years america still remains confident and youthful in its commitment to freedom and equality and we always will be [Applause] [Music] [Applause] [Music] [Applause] during this election year we candidates will ask you for your votes and from us will be demanded our vision my vision of this nation and its future has been deepened and matured during the 19 months that i've campaigned among you for president i've never had more faith in america than i do today we have an america that involved dylan's phrase is busy being born not busy dying we can't have an american government has turned away from scandal and corruption and official cynicism and is once again as decent and competent as our people we can have an america

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as our people we can have an america that has reconciled its economic needs with its desire for an environment that we can pass on with pride to the next generation we can have an america that provides excellence in education to my child and your child and every child [Music] we can have an america that encourages and takes pride in our ethnic diversity our religious diversity our cultural diversity knowing that out of this pluralistic heritage has come the strength and the vitality and the creativity that has made us great and will keep us great [Music] we can have an american government does not that does not oppress or spy on its own people [Applause] [Music] but respect our dignity and our privacy and our right to be let alone we can have an america where freedom on the one hand and equality on the other hand a mutual is supportive and not in conflict and where the dreams of our nation's first leaders are fully realized in our own day and age and we can have an america

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day and age and we can have an america which harnesses the idealism of the student the compassion of a nurse or the social worker the determination of the farmer the wisdom of a teacher the practicality of the business leader the experience of the senior citizen and the hope of a laborer to build a better life for us all that we can have it and we're going to have it [Music] as i've said many times before we could have an american president who does not govern with negativism and fear for the future but with vigor and vision and aggressive leadership a president who's not isolated from the people but who feels your pain [Music] and shares your dreams and takes his strength and his wisdom and his courage from you i see in america on the move again united are diverse and vital and tolerant nation entering our third century with pride [Music] and confidence an america that lives up

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and confidence an america that lives up to the majesty of a constitution and a simple decency of our people this is the america we want this is the america that we will have [Music] [Applause] [Music] we will go forward from this convention with some differences of opinion perhaps but nevertheless united and a calm determination to make our country large and driving and generous in spirit once again ready to embark on great national deeds and once again as brothers and sisters our hearts will swell with pride to call ourselves americans thank you very much [Applause] two [Music] do

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[Applause] thank you [Applause] so [Applause] so [Applause] [Music] [Applause] [Music]

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[Applause] so [Applause] jackson [Applause] judo

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senator frank church [Applause] governor jerry brown governor george wallace [Applause] five drivers governor milton shaft [Applause] and muskie [Applause] john mayor dick daley [Applause] speaker senator hubert h humphreys speaker senator george mcgovern governor carey governor uk of new york [Applause] governor wendell anderson congresswoman iran very great birth [Applause] governor jerry apodaca of new mexico

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governor jerry apodaca of new mexico governor raul castro [Applause] congresswoman barbara jordan of texas [Applause] hey [Applause] governor phil miller mayor henry meyer milwaukee mayor ken gibson new york [Applause] lieutenant governor krupjak of new york let's forgive this lack of protocol tonight no protocol in this house we're all one [Applause] mr robert lipscoot the unsung hero of the carter campaign where are you bob [Applause] mayor dick hatcher better have today mr leonard woodstock detroit mr woodcock [Applause]

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[Applause] this is communication work worst centered church you never got up here savvy church come on up here you missed your first call [Applause] governor even asked you my dear friend senator john glenn has been called once i think he's already up here right left all right mr lee kling mr edward bennett williams [Applause] don fowler chairman of state chairman's association don fowler [Applause] [Music] governor george busby of georgia [Applause] mr

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